

Evening Telegraph

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1866.

The Rebellion and State Status.

Our Burlington correspondent writes us a long letter, reviewing our article of a few days since, concerning Senator Cowan's late speech.

In your comments upon the quotation you make from his (Mr. Cowan's) speech, you appear to have lost sight entirely of his real position; and in your illustrations to prove its fallacy, you most unskillfully give strength to his argument.

Under the very peculiar Constitution of this Government, although the citizens owe supreme allegiance to the Federal Government, they owe also a qualified allegiance to the State in which they are domiciled.

Our chief ground of criticism upon Mr. Cowan was that, in the same speech, he took two precisely antagonistic positions; first, maintaining that the Rebellion was the work of individuals and not of the States, and next, that it was the work of the States and not of individuals.

Our correspondent seems to us to have fallen into the same fallacy that we ascribed to the gentleman whom he assumes to defend. Despite the ordinances of secession and other revolutionary acts, he affirms that the State was without fault.

Our correspondent seems to think that much is gained by calling the rebellious and revolutionary acts of the Southern States "void." But what is a void act? Is it an act that has not in fact been committed? If so, then it is not an act at all.

To hold, therefore, that the States were "not in fault" because their rebellious acts were void acts, when they were also much more than void, is illogical and absurd. The very fact that these acts were not only without legal sanction, but in the highest degree illegal and revolutionary, constituted the nation's great warrant for prosecuting the war.

A State sovereignty movement from the start. The States seceded as States, made war as States, confederated together as States. The people acted constantly within the forms of their State organizations.

The Supreme Court of the United States has fully and explicitly settled this very question. In the prize cases which came up on appeal from the District Courts of Southern New York and Massachusetts, an opinion was delivered, March 9, 1863, confined to the general questions of law which were raised by all the cases.

They (the applicants) contend also that insurrection is the act of individuals, and not of a Government or sovereignty; that the individuals engaged are subjects of law; that confederation of their property can only be effected under municipal law; that, by the law of the land, such confederation cannot take place without the conviction of the owner of some offense; and, finally, that the secession ordinances are nullities, and ineffectual to release any citizen from his allegiance to the national Government.

This is Mr. Cowan's case, stated better than he or his Burlington attorney has done it. But the Court goes on to reply:— "This argument rests on the assumption of two propositions, each of which is without foundation in the established law of nations."

We have shown that a civil war, such as that now in progress between the Northern and Southern States, is properly conducted according to the humane regulations of public law, as regards capture on the ocean.

Under the very peculiar Constitution of this Government, although the citizens owe supreme allegiance to the Federal Government, they owe also a qualified allegiance to the State in which they are domiciled; their persons and property are subject to its laws.

This decision settles the matter, both in accordance with the reason of the case and with the practice of the Government throughout the war. No metaphysical absurdities or verbal fallacies can reach the stable basis upon which it rests.

The true theory in regard to this whole matter is, that the moment the Southern States, as organized political communities, commenced war upon the Union, that moment they ceased to be "States in the Union," and became hostile, Rebel, belligerent States.

Conservative Efforts to Introduce Slavery in Maryland. It would really seem that the conservative faction that is now dominant in Maryland is determined to reintroduce slavery in that State despite the Constitution and laws of the United States.

There was an officer of the Freedmen's Bureau at the sale, and it was thought the bidding would have been more spirited but for the fact that an impression seemed to prevail that the officer in question was about to interfere with the right of the purchasers and release the negroes from the custody of the purchaser.

This proceeding is a direct and flagrant violation of the Civil Rights law, which provides that no difference in punishments shall be made on account of color. But where did the supporters of slavery ever show any respect for law? This Judge Magruder is bound by his oath to support the Constitution and laws of the United States, any law of his State to the contrary notwithstanding.

We are glad to learn that this is to be made a test case. It will be interesting to know whether a pro-slavery Maryland judge can set the laws of the United States at defiance. But what a lesson is here for the people. The moment the conservative party obtains power, that moment it attempts to revive the old order of things, and bring back slavery.

Give it power throughout the country, and we should behold that infernal system restored in fact, if not in name, in every Southern State. The virus of slavery-worship is in the very bones of the conservatives. They will not learn anything from the tremendous events of the last five years.

A False Alarm. It is reported that the President lately, in conversation with a friend, expressed his unabated confidence in the final triumph of his restoration policy! He also took occasion to condemn the project that was being agitated in Congress for the overthrow of the present State Governments at the South, and declared that it would release those State Governments from the payment of their State debts, and impose them upon the United States.

We do not see how the overthrow of the present illegal State Governments at the South can impose the payment of their State debts upon the United States any more than President Johnson's overthrow of their predecessors involved the same result. President Johnson found a lot of illegal State Governments in existence at the South and overthrew them. Did that action of his impose the payment of the Southern State debts upon the United States? If not, how will the overthrow of the present illegal State Governments at the South do so?

An Important Treasury Decision. The Treasury Department has decided that no trustee process, garnishment, or injunction can be recognized by the officers of the Government in respect of moneys due creditors of the United States. Reasons of high public policy, it says, forbid that the agents of the Government should be impeded in the payment for services or supplies by the acts of any one who may think or assert that he has a claim upon the public creditor.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

DR. WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY.—Where this article is known it is a work of supererogation to say one word in its favor, as well as its established as an untiring remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Croup, Whooping Cough, Asthma, Diseases of the Throat, Chest, and Lungs, as well as that most dreaded of all diseases, Consumption, which, like medical authority has pronounced to be a curable disease.

CHRONIC DISEASES, SCROFULA, ULCERS, ETC. It is well known that the benefits derived from drinking of the Congress, Farnox, and other celebrated Springs is principally owing to the iodine they contain.

PREPARED OIL OF PALM AND MACE. FOR PRESERVING, RESTORING, AND BEAUTIFYING THE HAIR. And is the most delightful and wonderful article the world ever produced.

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SPECIAL NOTICES.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING.—JOY, COE & CO., N. E. corner of FIFTH and CHESTNUT Streets, Philadelphia, and TRIBUNE BUILDINGS, New York, are agents for the "TELEGRAPH," and for the Newspapers of the whole country.

GENERAL AGENCY OF THE Widows' and Orphans' Benefit Life Insurance Company, of New York. PHILADELPHIA, December 21, 1866.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Stockholders of MIDDLETOWN OIL COMPANY will be held at the office, No. 1025 MARKET Street on MONDAY EVENING January 1, 1867, at 7 o'clock, for the election of officers, and for other business that may come up for decision.

FAIR AT WASHINGTON BUILDING, THIRD STREET, above SPRUCE, THIS EVENING and TO-MORROW EVENING, 12 o'clock, for the benefit of the MIDDLETOWN OIL COMPANY.

AMUSEMENTS. NEW CHESTNUT STREET THEATRE.—CHESTNUT Street, above TWELFTH. Doors open at 7 o'clock. Carriage rises at 7:30.

CLOSING SALES OF WINTER DRESS GOODS, CLOAKING VELVETS, CLOAKING CLOTHS, OVERCOATINGS, BLANKETS, SHAWLS, CLOAKS, ETC. ETC.

CURWEN STODDART & BROTHER, Nos. 450, 452, and 454 N. SECOND ST., ABOVE WILLOW.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS AT FANCY PRICES. French Merinos, Poplins, Hides, Alpacas, Pelasias, etc.

15,000 YARDS MUSLINS. Bleached and Unbleached, all grades at the late reduced prices.

TO RENT—THREE ROOMS, 20 BY 66 FEET, second, third, and fourth stories, No. 12 North THIRD Street.

AMERICAN "Waltham" Watches. Dealers in Watches from all parts of the country are reminded that the undersigned keep a full assortment of Waltham Watches.

ROBBINS & APPLETON, AGENTS OF THE AMERICAN WATCH CO. No. 182 BROADWAY, N. Y.

P. S. MUSHROOMS, AND MACCARONI. Just imported in the large "Cocquator," an invoice of the finest.

FRENCH PEAS, MUSHROOMS, and MACCARONI. Imported by ourselves.

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CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. A FULL LINE OF THE CELEBRATED BUTTERFIELD Gold Pens, have just been received by MOSS & CO., No. 42 CHESTNUT Street. 10 1/2 wad.

DRY GOODS CHEAP ENOUGH

MARKET & NINTH. COOPER & CONARD. ARE SELLING, AT THE VERY REDUCED PRICES, THEIR ENTIRE MAGNIFICENT STOCK.

FINEST FROSTED BEAVERS, ROYAL CHINCHILLAS, VELOURS and WHITNEYS, MAGNIFICENT OVERCOATINGS, FINEST STOCK CLOAKINGS, ALL THE NOVELTIES, CLOAKINGS FROM \$2 UP, NOBBY CASSIMERES, FINEST CASSIMERES MADE, LOW GRADES CASSIMERES, BLACK FRENCH DRESKINS, BLACK FRENCH CLOTHS, RICHLY-TRIMMED CLOAKS, ELEGANT SACQUES, CHEAP, HANDSOME SHAWLS, CHEAP AS EVER, GARNET AND MODE POPLINS, GARNET AND BLUE MERINOS, SUPERB POPLIN and MERINO STOCK, MERRIMAC CALICOES, ALL-WOOL DELAINES, 50 CENTS, CHRISTMAS DRESS GOODS, BALMORALS EXTRA CHEAP, CHRISTMAS SCARFS, BLANKETS LOW DOWN, BEST BLEACHED MUSLINS, 30 CENTS.

COOK & BROTHER, IMPORTERS OF HOSIERY GOODS, No. 53 North EIGHTH Street.

Have Received (by Steamer "Poruvian") Ladies' English Merino Vests, \$1-50. Ladies' English Merino Vests, \$1-50. Ladies' English Merino Vests, \$2-00. Ladies' English Merino Vests, \$2-50. Gents' English Merino Vests, \$2-50. Domestic Vests and Pants, greatly reduced. Gents' Vests, reduced from \$1-25 to \$1-00. Gents' Vests, reduced from \$1-50 to \$1-00.

TRADE MARK. (103 wad) MASONIC PUBLICATIONS.—HEADQUARTERS for Masonic Books, at MOSS & CO.'S, No. 42 CHESTNUT Street. 10 1/2 wad.

REMOVABLE OF THE North Pennsylvania Railroad Passenger Station.

On Tuesday, January 1, 1867, THE PHILADELPHIA PASSENGER STATION OF THIS ROAD WILL BE REMOVED FROM THIRD AND THOMPSON STREETS TO THE NEW AND COMMODIOUS DEPOT, N. W. CORNER BERKS AND AMERICAN STREETS. 12 24 10t ELLIS CLARK, General Agent.

INKS.—ARNOLE'S, DAVIDS', MAYNARD & ROYER'S Fluids, Black, Copying, Blue, Cartridge, India, and Japan, at MOSS & CO.'S, No. 42 CHESTNUT Street. 10 1/2 wad.

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CLOCKS, WATCHES, BRONZES, FANS, JEWELRY, DIAMONDS, SILVER-WARE, PLATED WARE, Opera Glasses, Leather Goods, Portemonnaies and Satchels, Dressing Cases, Jewel Cases, Musical Boxes.

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